

# OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, SEPT. 13, 2013  
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER  
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR SEPT. 13, 2013

## FRIDAY REPORT



1. **‘Triple A’ Bond Ratings** – Both Moody’s Investor Service and Standard & Poor’s have granted the City their highest credit ratings for the City’s upcoming bond sales. Council is scheduled to approval the bond sales Tuesday, Sept. 17.
2. **Joint Meeting with School Board** – The City Council will meet in joint session with the School Board on Monday, Sept. 16, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 349 of the Community Center.
3. **Fall Into The Arts** – Fall Into The Arts Festival is at Centennial Lakes Park this weekend: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15.
4. **Neighborhood Construction Landscape Restoration** – Most of the 2013 projects are now in the restoration phase of work. The State Climatologist is labeling the last two months as a “flash-drought” as the metro area went from no signs of drought in late June to the D1 “moderate drought” today. This lack of moisture and the hot temperatures have made re-storing projects more difficult. This year, staff recommended and City Council agreed that we would use a hydro-seeding process for all of our projects. Hydro-seed is a proven performer, producing robust and healthy lawns in variety of conditions. Mature, seeded lawns are more resistant to pests and harsh weather than sod as they are grown in place from a seed mix specially selected for the area. We are hearing from some property owners who are unhappy with the hydro-seeded restorations. Staff is telling those residents that we will re-evaluate the lawns next spring.
5. **Juried Show** – Arts & Culture Commissioner and Juried Show Chair Dana Lappin is leading the Juried Show Committee to have an exciting 29th-Annual Members’ Juried Show. Individual donations are currently at \$1,775 with three weeks left to go, compared to 2012 with \$1,725. Our two highest years in donations were 2009 with \$7,175 and 2011 with \$5,245. The show will run Sept. 26 through Oct. 31, with the Opening Reception Thursday, Sept. 26. The exhibit is in honor of the late Jim Van Valkenburg this year. The Peer Award is in honor of Bob Kojetin for his hard work and dedication is assisting with “Bring-In Day.”
6. **Metro Boulevard Sidewalk Project** – Staff is obtaining quotes for a sidewalk from the Public Works & Park Maintenance Facility to Edina Industrial Boulevard. Staff has met with the property owners for both properties that this affects and they are excited to have a sidewalk in this area. Every year, staff will look at “filler sidewalk projects” – projects that can easily be constructed if funds are available in the Pedestrian and Cycling Safety fund.

- 7. France Avenue Right-in/Right-out Project** – Byerly’s continues to progress with the right-in/right-out project on France Avenue. Next week, they will work on the median at 72nd Street West. This work includes closing off the eastbound to northbound movement. The new route for this movement is Lynmar Lane to Hazelton Road to the traffic signals on France Ave.
- 8. Senior Center** –Sept. 9 was the first of many busy Monday nights at the Senior Center. From 3:30 to 5:45 p.m., a Great Decisions speaker brought in 115 people to the Fireside Room. At 6 p.m., more than 50 youth and parents came for their weekly practice for the Twin Cities Youth Symphony. At 6:30 p.m., the gun safety class with 15 students began. And, at 7 p.m. 15 harmonica players practiced.
- 9. Edina Active Routes to School Comprehensive Plan** – The Edina Active Routes to School Working Group met this week to finalize the draft Edina Active Routes to School Comprehensive Plan. This plan will now be routed through the proper groups at Edina Public Schools as well as the City Council.
- 10. Aquatic Center** – The Aquatic Center closed for the season on Sunday, Aug. 25. Here are some interesting stats from 2013 operations:
- Season Pass holders – 10,774
  - Flow Rider Season Pass holders – 306
  - Flow Rider Daily passes sold – 3,148
  - Daily Admissions sold – 39,693
  - Season Pass Holder Check-ins – 91,537
  - Group Reservations – 91
  - Seasonal staff hired – 79
  - Hours worked – 28,833
  - Items sold at the concessions stand – 41,282

The weather this year wasn’t that great for operating an outdoor aquatic center. June had 13 days with rain and an average temp of 68.9 degrees. July had seven days with rain and an average temp of 75 degrees. August had four days with rain and an average temp of 74.7 degrees. All in all, the aquatic center team did a wonderful job this year!